

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CDA DELEGATION TRIP REPORT

REFS: A) STATE 147378, B) STATE 159619, C) STATE 173711,
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1. SUMMARY. THE CDA DELEGATION VISITED THE US JUNE 10-
JULY 2 AS PART OF THE WORLDWIDE FACT-FINDING TRIP. PUR-
SUANT TO THEIR REQUEST THEY MET PRIMARILY WITH URBAN AND
REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICIALS AT EACH STOP. WHILE COMMERCIAL
CONTACTS WERE MINIMAL, THE GROUP DID MEET WITH ARCHISYSTEMS
INC., IN LOS ANGELES, BECHTEL CORP IN WASHINGTON, AND
AMERICAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS COUNCIL (ACEC) A NATIONAL
TRADE ASSOCIATION. GROUP WAS SUFFICIENTLY IMPRESSED WITH
WORK OF US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY TO REQUEST USGS ASSIST IN
ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE CAPITAL TERRITORY IN CONCERT WITH
THE FMG AND AT FMG EXPENSE. THE GROUP ALSO INITIATED A
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CORRESPONDENT RELATIONSHIP WITH INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION FOR BIBLIOGRAPHY IN URBAN PLANNING AND
ADMINISTRATION. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR CDA STAFF MAY BE IN
THE OFFING. CDA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY EBONG REQUESTED A

SHORT-LIST OF ABOUT FIVE HIGHLY QUALIFIED AMERICAN CONSULTING FIRMS, WHICH USG DID NOT PROVIDE. IF REQUEST RESUBMITTED, COMMERCE WILLING TO ASK ACEC FOR LIST. EBONG SAID HE AND REST OF DELEGATION GREATLY APPRECIATED US PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. ITINERARY. CDA DELEGATION ARRIVED IN HONOLULU FROM AUSTRALIA A DAY EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED (JUNE 10) WITHOUT NOTIFYING HONOLULU RECEPTION CENTER OR DEPT OF CHANGE IN PLANS AND HENCE WERE NOT MET. GROUP ARRIVED AS SCHEDULED JUNE 14 IN LOS ANGELES WHERE FULL TWO-DAY SCHEDULE HAD BEEN ARRANGED BY MAYOR BRADLEY'S OFFICE. GROUP WAS BRIEFED BY CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND TOURED FIVE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AREAS. THEY WERE MOST IMPRESSED WITH CENTURY CITY, A SUBSIDIARY OF THE ALCOA COMPANY, IN METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES. EBONG REMARKED IN WASHINGTON THAT ON ANY SHORT-LIST OF AMERICAN FIRMS HE WOULD CERTAINLY LIST THE DEVELOPERS OF CENTURY CITY.

3. ON JUNE 16 THE GROUP MET WITH ARCHISYSTEMS IN VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA, AND WERE TREATED TO A COMPANY BRIEFING AND LUNCHEON. THEY THEN VISITED IRVINE, A NEW TOWN IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, AND THE OFFICIAL PART OF THEIR TRAVEL ENDED WITH A VISIT TO DISNEYLAND. THE DELEGATION TRAVELED TO SACRAMENTO WHERE THEY MET WITH STATE OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. THEY WERE GIVEN BRIEFINGS ON THE CONCEPTS OF CAPITAL CITIES AND MEANS WHICH STATE OFFICIALS HAVE USED TO RESTORE AND REVITALIZE SACRAMENTO. THEY ALSO MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION. THEY WERE MOST IMPRESSED WITH HIGH-INCOME HOUSING SITES IN SACRAMENTO.

4. THE DELEGATION ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON JUNE 20 AND HAD FIVE BUSINESS DAYS OF BRIEFINGS AND MEETINGS. THEY MET WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS (BLAKE) AND AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA (SCOTT). THEY TOURED DULLES AIRPORT, TWO NEW TOWNS: RESTON, VIRGINIA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AND COLUMBIA, MARYLAND, AND MET JAMES ROUSE (DEVELOPER OF COLUMBIA). THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE NEW COMMUNITIES ADMINISTRATION OF HUD. BECHTEL ARRANGED A PRIVATE TOUR OF THE WASHINGTON SUBWAY SYSTEM, AND THEY MET WITH OFFICIALS OF THE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. USGS TOLD THEM ABOUT NASA AND LANDSAT DATA. THEY WERE ALSO BRIEFED BY OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION, THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITAL, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FINE ARTS COMMISSION. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR WASHINGTON VISIT WAS A COURTESY CALL ON MAYOR WALTER WASHINGTON.

5. WHILE IN WASHINGTON, BECHTEL CORPORATION HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR THE DELEGATION AND THE AMERICAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS COUNCIL HOSTED A RECEPTION FOR THEM. THE INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DESCRIBED TO THEM A PROGRAM OF TRAINING FOR CDA STAFF WHICH IPA IS WILLING TO OFFER IN WASHINGTON AND/OR NIGERIA, DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF TRAINING DESIRED, ITS LENGTH, AND THE PERCEIVED NEEDS OF THE AUTHORITY.

6. THE DELEGATION SPENT THE WEEKEND OF THE 25TH IN NEW YORK CITY.

7. GROUP ARRIVED AT DISNEY WORLD (NEAR ORLANDO, FLORIDA) SUNDAY, JUNE 27. AFTER REQUESTING THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR THEM TO RECEIVE A BRIEFING ON YEAR-AROUND LAND CARE AND MANAGEMENT AT DISNEY WORLD, THEY IGNORED THOSE ARRANGEMENTS AND PURSUED THEIR OWN PROGRAM FOR THE TWO DAYS THEY WERE THERE.

8. JUNE 29 THE GROUP FLEW TO MIAMI FOR A PROGRAM ARRANGED BY THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF DADE COUNTY. THEY WERE BRIEFED BY DADE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT AND THEY TOURED VARIOUS KINDS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING WHILE IN MIAMI. THEY APPEARED MOST IMPRESSED WITH AFFLUENT PRIVATE HOUSING. THE REST OF THE TIME IN MIAMI THEY SPENT ON THEIR OWN. BECHTEL CORPORATION TOOK THEM ON A FISHING TRIP IN THE FLORIDA KEYS AND GAVE THEM A TOUR OF A BECHTEL-BUILT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IN HOMESTEAD. ON JULY 2, THEY LEFT THE US FOR RIO DE JANEIRO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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9. CONSULTANT-PLANNER. EBONG, WHILE IN WASHINGTON, REQUESTED THE USG TO NOMINATE ABOUT FIVE 'HIGHLY QUALIFIED PLANNING FIRMS TO HANDLE INITIAL PLANNING FOR NEW CAPITAL PROJECT. HE INFERRED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED SUCH A SHORT-LIST FROM AT LEAST ONE OTHER GOVERNMENT. DEPTOFF SAID THAT US WOULD BE VERY RELUCTANT TO PROVIDE SUCH A SHORT-LIST SINCE LARGE NUMBER US FIRMS QUITE CAPABLE OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES HE DESIRED. DEPARTMENT HAS SINCE DISCUSSED THE QUESTION WITH COMMERCE WHO AGREES WITH THE STATE/AID ASSESSMENT THAT USG SHOULD NOT PROVIDE SUCH SHORT-LIST. COMMERCE HAS REQUESTED THAT UPON EBONG'S RETURN EMBASSY AGAIN DISCUSS SUBJECT OF SHORT-LIST WITH EBONG. IF HE STILL WANTS SHORT-LIST, COMMERCE WILLING TO REQUEST ACEC PROVIDE FMG LIST OF QUALIFIED US FIRMS.

10. INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, AID PROVIDED EBONG WITH NAME AND BIO DATA OF PLANNER ROBERT MITCHELL. MITCHELL NOT ATTACHED TO USG OR PARTICULAR FIRM. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT OFFICER GOT DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT EBONG UNHAPPY WITH A SINGLE NOMINEE FOR IMPORTANT

POSITION OF "IN-HOUSE GENIUS". IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EBONG REQUEST EMBASSY DETERMINE WHETHER EBONG SATISFIED WITH SINGLE NOMINATION. IF HE WISHES LARGER POOL OF NAMES, AID QUITE WILLING TO PROVIDE IT.

11. LANDSAT TECHNOLOGY. IN VISIT TO US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, EBONG AND DR. OYAWOYE APPEARED IMPRESSED WITH US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY LANDSAT DATA AND LAND USE PROGRAM. EBONG REQUESTED USGS TO ASSIST IN ECOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE NEW CAPITAL AREA IN NIGERIA AT FMG EXPENSE. USGS, WITH AID AUTHORIZATION, WILLING TO SEND PERSONNEL TO NIGERIA TO DETERMINE SCOPE AND DEFINITION OF REQUESTED ASSISTANCE. USGS ALSO ABLE TO PROVIDE OJT TO NIGERIANS IF EMBASSY CONCURS WITH PROJECT (REFTEL C). AID NOW AWAITING REPLY TO REF CABLE.

12. PUBLICITY: USIA TOOK STILL PHOTOS OF DELEGATION IN LOS ANGELES AND WASHINGTON (SUBJECT SEPTELS). EBONG AND AJOSE-ADEOGUN WERE ALSO INTERVIEWED BY VOA DURING WASHINGTON LEG OF TRIP.

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